

Amendment to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A mechanical shoe ~~intended to be mounted more particularly for mounting on the~~ a hoof of a sport horse, ~~of the type formed by comprising:~~

- 5 a front central part [(3)] or toe piece,
~~from both sides of which~~ two side branches [(4 and 5)] or quarters
extending freely from sides of the front central part, the
rear end portions [(6 and 7)] ~~of which~~ forming heels,
holes [(8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, 13, 14, 14)] or nail holes ~~being~~ defined in
the ~~aforementioned~~ side branches [(4 and 5),] ~~in order to receive nails for fixing on~~
10 attachment to the hoof [(2)],
~~which, in plan view, present on an~~ inner surface[(s)] facing the hoof
[(2),] ~~at the level of each of the side branches [(4 and 5)] includes including~~ zones
[(D and E)] on the rear ends [(6, 7)] ~~or heels~~, forming flares of greater width than
the side branches [(4, 5)], and,
15 ~~characterized in that it also presents, in plan view, on~~ the inner
surface[[],] ~~at the level of each of its side branches [(4 and 5)] defines~~ a zone
[(A, B)] whose interior edge presents a simple curved inner profile and whose width
is narrower than ~~the zone [(C)] of the front central part [(3)] or toe piece.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The shoe according to claim 1,
~~characterized in that wherein the rear ends portions [(6, 7)] or heels present in an~~
~~extension of their flared zones [(D, E),] new~~ define thinning zones [(F, G)] ~~defined~~
~~towards the~~ extending from outer peripheral edges of the ~~aforesaid~~ heels [(6, 7)].

3. (Currently Amended) The shoe according to the claim 1[[or
2]], ~~characterized in that its wherein~~ inner and outer peripheral edges are beveled by
chamfers [(16 and 17)] defined in ~~the~~ a direction of ~~its an~~ outer surface, ~~so as to~~
define[[],] ~~in plan view[[],]~~ a contact face [(H)] with the ground[[],] ~~of width a~~
5 region of the toe piece and the two side branches is of substantially constant width
~~narrower than the inner surface of the aforementioned shoe [(1),] but appreciably~~

~~constant, on the level of the toe piece~~ [(3)] ~~and the two side branches~~ [(4 and 5)] ~~extending from it~~, the ~~aforementioned~~ contact face (H) widening ~~[[at]]~~ in the level region of the heels [(6 and 7)].

4. (Currently Amended) The shoe according to claim 3, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the front central part [(3)] or toe piece presents has plurality of ridges [(18)] or grooves [(19)] forming accordion pleats disposed on the inner chamfer [(17)].

5. (Currently Amended) The shoe according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the ~~outer~~ inner surface of each quarter [(4, 5)] ~~defines a plurality of holes or nail holes~~ [(8 to 11 and 12 to 15)] ~~in its side branch is flat face where the holes intended to receive the nails are defined.~~

6. (Currently Amended) The shoe according to claim 5, ~~characterized in that wherein on the outer face~~, the nail holes are defined in a groove [(20)].

7. (Currently Amended) The shoe according to ~~one of the claims~~ claim 3 [(to 6)], ~~characterized in that it comprises~~ wherein on both sides of the toe piece [(3)], in zones bordering with the side branches [(4, 5)], transverse nail holes [(11, 15)] are defined with a central portion extending transversely ~~in a central zone and the length of which is bigger than the thickness of the blade of the corresponding nail to be received, so as to position~~ such that the received nail can be positioned in an ideal nailing zone or white line [(LB)] of the hoof [(2)].

8. (Currently Amended) The shoe according to claim 7, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ each of the transverse nail holes [(11, 15)] is of truncated pyramidal form widening towards the outer surface of the toe piece [(3)].

9. (Currently Amended) The shoe according to claim 8, ~~characterized in that the~~ wherein inner surfaces of the truncated pyramidal transverse

nail holes [(11 and 15)] include notches [(21)], in order to allow the blocking of the received nail ~~head~~ in a selected position in the nail hole.

10. (New) A horseshoe comprising:
a front central portion;
side branch portions extending from opposite sides of the front central portion, each side branch portion having a carved inner edge and being narrower than
5 the front central portion, and
heel portions extending from ends of the side branch portions, the heel portions being flared wider than the side branch portions.

11. (New) The horseshoe according to claim 10, wherein the front central and side branch portions have an inner hoof facing surface that is wider than an outer surface, the inner and outer surfaces being connected by beveled edges.

12. (New) The horseshoe according to claim 11, wherein the outer face is flat along the front central portion and defines a groove along each side branch portions, nail holes being defined in each groove.

13. (New) The horseshoe according to claim 11, wherein the outer face is flat along the front central portion and further including transverse nail holes defined in the front central portion flat face, each transverse nail hole having a longer dimension extending transversely to the front central portion and a shorter
5 dimension extending along to the front central portion, the shorter dimension corresponding to a width of a nail to be received in the transverse nail hole and the longer dimension being thicker than the nail, such that the nail can be positioned in a selectable location along the longer dimension.

14. (New) The horseshoe according to claim 13, wherein the transverse nail hole includes notches defined along the longer dimension.

15. (New) The horseshoe according to claim 13, wherein the transverse nail holes have a truncated pyramidal form.

16. (New) The horseshoe according to claim 11, wherein an inner of the beveled edges is chamfered and has a series of ridges or grooves along at least a portion of the front central portion.

17. (New) The horseshoe according to claim 11, further including:

a portion extending from a peripheral edge of each of the heel portions, the extending portions being narrower than the heel portions.